Voice of Emmanuel

Love God, Love People, Make Disciples

www.emmanuelypsi.org facebook.com/emmanuelypsi info@emmanuelypsi.org

AUGUST 2025

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The transition team has engaged a multi-month process for evaluating Emmanuel's core values, mission and vision statements, and proposing updated statements. This has included studying the congregation's history, discerning the ideals and passions of Emmanuel today, as well as a faithful path forward. Our work was outlined by the transition process adopted by the Southeast Michigan Synod last summer and we utilized guidance from Evan Doyle and DailyChristianHelp.com

Over many weeks, the Transition Team, made up of members Pam Bell, Jerry Cramer, Mike Gelletly, Nancy Jeffries, Mary Beth Maes, Kathy Schaeffer, Jake Zachrich, and myself, utilized various exercises to help us get at these questions. When we gathered as a congregation for our Coffee Hour Conversations on June 22nd and 29th, we utilized some of these same exercises. We were glad to find that our own conversations had resulted in similar findings to those which the congregational conversations revealed. In fact, we found the cohesion uncanny; the transition team's understanding of the congregation's priorities, values, and direction were remarkably in sync with the congregation's results.

The transition team is excited to share the proposed statements, now adopted by Emmanuel's Council.

MISSION STATEMENT:
Gathering to grow in Faith, Love, and Service through Christ.

VISION STATEMENT:
Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to manifest Christ's example as an inclusive, visible, dynamic body of faith. We are committed to serving the vulnerable and fostering hope. We will grow in enthusiastic discipleship as we worship, welcome, serve, and study.

We hope these articulations of our current ministry, in the mission statement, and the future we are growing into, in the vision statement, will help to guide, invigorate, and clarify our ministry now and moving forward.

In Faith, Hope, and Love,
Pastor Joshua Rinas

Happy Birthday to all who were born in August!
Juliana Ramirez, Louise Conklin, Karen Peters, Adelyn Gray, Carole Laurain, Mary Beth Maes, Carol Wright, Kathleen Bennett, Gail Hubbard, Joshua Mays, Alexa Lokensgard, Lynne Phillips, Rylan Long, Ruth Spalding, Matthew Ramirez, Dominic Bennett

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August 1st – ***Office Closed***

August 3rd – ***Eighth Sunday after Pentecost***

Birthday Sunday
Join us for a birthday coffee hour from 11:00am – 12:00pm.

History in Maps
The Graeco-Roman World, and the Development of Christianity, from Alexander to Constantine.

Schedule for eleven 45-minute presentations, using the computer projection equipment. Class will meet at 11:30 AM, following church services, in the lounge.

There will be occasional printed and digital handouts.

August 5th

Bend and Stretch, Reach for the Stars Exercise Class
Tuesday mornings 10:30am – 11:30am. Dress comfortably, bring a water bottle to stay hydrated and a yoga mat if you have one. The cost is $5.00 per one hour class, payable at class. Participants will be required to sign a liability waiver.

August 6th

Clothing Closet
Wednesdays 9:00am – 10:30am

Bible Study
Pastor Joshua's Bible study class on Exodus from 12:30pm – 2:00pm. There will not be Bible Study on August 13th and August 20th. Class will resume on August 27th.

Food Pantry
Wednesdays 3:00pm – 5:00pm

August 7th

Bend and Stretch, Reach for the Stars Exercise Class
Thursday mornings 9:30am – 10:30am. Dress comfortably, bring a water bottle to stay hydrated and a yoga mat if you have one. The cost is $5.00 per one hour class, payable at class. Participants will be required to sign a liability waiver.

August 9th

Washtenaw Refugee Welcome
The Washtenaw Refugee Welcome group meets every 2nd Saturday of the month from 10:00am – 12:00pm.

August 10th – *Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*

History in Maps
11:30am, following church services, in the lounge.

August 14th

Class of '53
The Class of '53 meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:00am in the Lounge.

August 17th – *Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*

History in Maps
11:30am, following church services, in the lounge.

Council Meeting
The Church Council meets on the third Sunday of every month following Worship Services.

August 18th

Newsletter Deadline
If you have something for the newsletter, please get it into the office. Thank you.

August 19th

Let's Go Out to Eat!
You are invited for a social event for people to get to know each other better, invite a friend or two! Tuesday, August 19th at 5pm at Aubree's in Depot Town – located at 39 E. Cross St. Ypsilanti, MI.

August 24th – *Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

History in Maps
11:30am, following church services, in the lounge.

August 27th

Bible Study
Pastor Joshua's Bible study class on Exodus resumes, 12:30pm – 2:00pm.

2025 Altar Flower Sign-up
The 2025 Altar flower sign-up has been put up on the bulletin board outside the office. **Please sign-up for your date and turn in the form and monies in the offering plate or office mailbox.** Thank you!

Assisting Ministers Needed!
Sign up on the sheet outside the office or call the office; Or through sign-up genius. Assisting Ministers - Click here or Scan QR code

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Financial Progress Report –
Attendance Sunday 7/27/25: 46
This past week (July 21-July 27) we received: Contributions of $1,463
Approved Budget: $285,719 ***Needed Weekly:*** $5,495

For the month of June we had:

- ***Income*** of $45,064
- ***Disbursements*** of $21,128
- ***Leaving a profit*** of $23,936
  - *Favorable June balance due to:*
    - Investments positive change in value
    - Large pledge received

So far this year we have:

- ***Income*** of $183,759
- ***Disbursements*** of $146,698
- ***Leaving a profit*** of $37,061
  - *Favorable YTD balance due to:*
    - Investments positive change in value
    - Bequest from estate of Barb Maes
    - Many pledges being paid 100% thru June 30th rather than spread weekly or monthly

Last year at June 30,2024 our balance was $ 4,463. Thank you for your financial support.

Ways to Give: Giving can be done online by clicking here. Or mail checks to: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

PayPal: Select payment type "Friends and Family" using emmanuelypsi@gmail.com. Please indicate account (general fund, flowers, memorials, etc.) where it says add message.

Mobile App: Download the Vanco Payments Mobile app for free from Google Play. In the app, select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation.

SOCIAL CONCERNS **JUNE NUMBERS**

Clothes Closet

86 families representing 280 people were served by the Clothes Closet in June. Donations of gently used clothing, bedding, towels, dishes, kitchen utensils, home decor, shoes, boots are accepted Wednesdays 9-10:30a or bring your donation Sundays and put it in the donation bin in the Gathering Area! Please do not donate anything that plugs in or requires batteries.

Food Pantry

201 families representing 558 individuals visited 334 times for a total of 940 people that were served in June. The Food Pantry received 12,334 pounds of food valued at, $18,052.13. June average attendance was just under 89 families per week.

Food Gatherers continues to support Emmanuel's Food Pantry. If you are interested in helping Food Gatherers support the 140 county agencies (including Emmanuel's Food Pantry) that depend on Food Gatherers, go to http://www.foodgatherers.org and click on "Donate Now".

Quilting

Quilting will start again Wednesday September 3. Sunday September 7, in conjunction with God's Hands, Our Work Sunday, there will be a Blessing of the Quilts before the quilts are distributed.

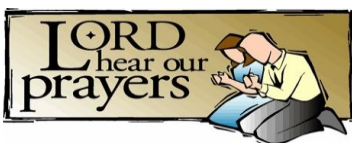
If you need medical equipment, there is a medical loan closet at the Ypsilanti Township Community Center, 2025 E. Clark Rd., 734-544-8300. Information on other local medical loan closets can be found at http://www.loanclosets.org

Did you know? For every 10 bags of donations to the Clothes Closet, about 1.5 bags are mens clothes, half a bag are kids clothes and 8 bags are womens clothes. **The Clothes Closet is always in need of Mens and kids clothing, no matter the season.** Time to clean out closets, ask your friends for their donations. Bring them in anytime and drop them in the donation bin in the Gathering area!

In conjunction with the Blessing of the Quilts on September 7, please donate a gently used blanket to the Clothes Closet. Bring your blankets to the Clothes Closet Donation Bin in the Gathering Area. Blankets will be given out to Clothes Closet clients.

The Giving Tree will be back starting July 27 through August 31, collecting school supplies. Pencils, paper, crayons, glue, whatever school supply you want to donate for all school ages including gently used backpacks. Donations will be given to local schools.

Prayers requested for:



John, Mary, Vicki, Steve, Dawn, Elizabeth, the friends and family of Sandy and of Barb, and all those effected by the floods in Texas and the earthquake in Russia.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 OFFICE CLOSED	**2**
3 10am Worship 11am Birthday Coffee Hr 11:30am History in Maps 6pm Scouts	**4** Juliana Ramirez	**5** 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery Louise Conklin	**6** 9am—10:30am Clothes Closet 12:30-2pm Bible Study 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg.	**7** Karen Peters	**8** 6pm –8pm NA Meeting Adelyn Gray Carole Laurain Mary Beth Maes	**9** 10am-12pm Washtenaw Refugee Carol Wright
10 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 11:30am History in Maps 6pm Scouts Kathleen Bennett Gail Hubbard Joshua Mays	**11**	**12** 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery	**13** 9am -10:30am Clothes Closet 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg.	**14** 9am Class of '53 9:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class Alexa Lokensgard	**15** 6pm –8pm NA Meeting	**16**

17 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 11:30am History in Maps COUNCIL MEETING 6pm Scouts 	**18** 	**19** 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery Let's Go Out to Eat! 5pm @Aubree's	**20** 9am—10:30am Clothes Closet 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg.	**21** 9:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class Lynne Phillips	**22** 6pm –8pm NA Meeting Rylan Long	**23**
24 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 11:30am History in Maps 6pm Scouts Ruth Spalding	**25** Matthew Ramirez Dominic Bennett	**26** 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery	**27** 9am—10:30am Clothes Closet 12:30-2pm Bible Study 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg.	**28** 9:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class	**29** 6pm –8pm NA Meeting	**30**
31 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 11:30am History in Maps 6pm Scouts						

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10AM IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM

BETHEL WORSHIP @ 12PM

**** Birthdays listed at the bottom of each day***

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

201 North River Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198-2808

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter
Check the box and return ☐

Return service requested

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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Interim Pastor……...……..….Joshua Rinas
Congregational President……..……..…….Peter Walline
Vice-President…….……..……..Nancy Slezak
Treasurer……..……..Dee Fleszar
Office Administrator……..……Jennifer Mays
Disciples……..……....All the Members of Emmanuel

Church Office Hours are Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.